

Ramsbottom *1533/1*
RAMSBOTTOM
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Reports
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Sanitary Inspector,
1935

RAMSBOTTOM :
N. Whitworth, Printer, Paradise Street.

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Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

CHAIRMAN :
COUNCILLOR *J. TAYLOR, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :
COUNCILLOR J. HAMER.

COUNCILLORS *J. COLLIER
G. FOGG, J.P.
*A. GASKELL
W. HOLDEN
*G. HOLT
C. LAMB
*Rev. D. LEWTAS, B.A.
J. LONGWORTH
*R. SUTHERS (from July, 1935)
*H. TAYLOR
*J. TAYLOR (w) (deceased May, 1935)
R. T. TURNBULL, J.P.
R. WHITTAKER
A. WORSICK

* Members of the Public Health Committee.

LIST OF ACTS AND SECTIONS THEREOF
ADOPTED BY THE
RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

- | | | |
|------|---|-----------------|
| I. | Infectious diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. | 1st April, 1896 |
| II. | Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. | 1st May, 1896 |
| III. | Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act,
1907 : | |
| | Part II. (Sections 15—33) | 21st Oct., 1909 |
| | Part III. (Sections 34, 35, 36, 38, 43,
44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50 and 51) | do. |
| | (Sections 39, 40, 41 and 42) | 3rd June, 1935 |
| | Part IV. (Sections 52—68) | 21st Oct., 1909 |
| | Part V. (Sections 69—75) | do. |
| | Part VI. (Sections 76 and 77) | do. |
| | Part VII. (Sections 79, 80, 81 and 86) | 1st May, 1910 |
| | Part VIII. (Sections 87—90) | do. |
| | Part IX. (Sections 91, 93 and 95) | do. |
| | Part X. | 21st Oct., 1909 |
| IV. | Public Health Act, 1925 : | |
| | Parts II, III, IV and V. | 1st March, 1927 |
| V. | Museum and Gymnasium Act, 1891. | 1st Nov., 1930 |
| VI. | Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1846. | 29th Jan., 1931 |
| VII. | Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts,
1899—1923. | 13th Oct., 1932 |

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BYE-LAWS
ARE NOW IN FORCE.

- | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------|
| I. | Cleansing of Footways and Pavements | 16th June, 1915 |
| II. | Nuisances | do. |
| III. | Common Lodging Houses | do. |
| IV. | Hackney Carriages | do. |
| V. | New Streets and Buildings | 18th March, 1924 |
| VI. | Slaughter-houses | 23rd Oct., 1915 |
| VII. | Offensive Trades | 25th, Sept., 1911 |
| VIII. | Pleasure Grounds | 6th Aug., 1931 |
| IX. | Erection of Advertising Hoardings and
Exhibition of Advertisements | 24th Oct., 1930 |
| X. | Emission of Smoke | 4th May, 1931 |



To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

The Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1935

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN.

I have again pleasure in presenting you with my annual report. All details of the year's experience statistical and other are embodied in the usual tables so that these by themselves provide a complete report. Tables alone however are rather fatiguing reading and I cannot resist the temptation to supplement them with a few textual remarks, comparative and other, just by way of focussing your attention upon a few of the details relating to vital statistics.

In the first place you will notice that more deaths than births occurred—in fact 20 more. The birth-rate on several occasions during the last few years has been less than the death-rate and never very much above it on the other occasions—a sort of equilibration in fact of these rates seems to be taking place.

That births should fluctuate in number more than deaths is to be expected since the birth-rate is problematical being in large measure under control while the death-rate is inevitable. But the conditions favourable to a high birth-rate are in the main linked with favourable economic circumstances and the absence of these locally over a number of years is in all probability the principal reason for our decline in this rate. In confirmation of this, on

looking over my annual reports since the war I find two years, 1920 and 1921—the later years of the boom in the cotton trade following the war and therefore likely to have been prosperous—in each of which 100 more births took place than in any one of the last five years. This is a rather astonishing reduction in little more than a decade in a population that at least has not diminished in number during that time.

Are we then nearing the saturation point of population for the whole country? From the numbers out of employment and with little prospect of finding any it would appear so. Possibly our industrial supremacy hitherto has led to a greater population than under modern conditions the country can economically support and we may be prepared for a reduction in years to come to what should be considered the optimum number. Some of our biologists contend that not more but better children is what is wanted and I anticipate in the not very distant future a campaign for educating the nation in the principles of heredity as a means to this end. Germany already, by ruthless methods, is trying the experiment, but sooner or later other nations will follow her example but in such fashion as appears to them more suited to their temperament.

Turning to more intimate affairs I am pleased to report that of the 173 registered births, 8 babies only died, which is equal to a mortality rate of 46 per 1,000 born—a very low rate indeed for an industrial area. Twenty years ago the average rate for the preceding ten years was 110. Such a reduction in infant mortality is marked evidence of a more enlightened motherhood to-day than of the yesterdays of twenty years ago, and babies born now have a much greater chance of survival which to some extent discounts their reduction in number.

A new table is included in this year's report which gives some interesting details of vital statistics in comparison with those of England and Wales, London, 121 Great Towns, and 140 Smaller Towns.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	9,564
Population (Census 1931)	15,530
Registrar-General's estimate (for 1935)	15,220
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	4,390
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1935	4,781
Rateable Value	£75,853
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£290

The area is industrial and employs a large proportion of female labour. The principal industries are Cotton and Woollen Spinning and Weaving, Bleaching, Dyeing and Calico Printing, Engineering, Paper Making, Soap Making, Chemical Works, Quarrying and Farming. By reason of its many and varied industries, Ramsbottom has enjoyed a lower percentage of unemployment than most other towns in Lancashire being only about 9 per cent. Whatever industrial diseases occur in Ramsbottom—and they are but few—are such as occur where excessive dust is inhaled giving rise to bronchial affections; and in dye works and print works where affections of the skin are sometimes caused by the preparations in use.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	171	95	76	Birth-Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 11.3
	Illegitimate	2	1	1	
	Total	173	96	77	
Still Births		5	1	4	Rate per 1000 Total (live and still) Births 28.
Deaths		193	96	97	Crude Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident Population, *12.6

* Adjusted death-rate (comparability factor 1.02) = 12.8 per 1000

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Deaths	Death-Rate per 1000 Total live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	1	
Other Puerperal Causes	nil	
Total	1	5.6

Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	46
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	46
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	nil
Deaths from Measles	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	nil

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate.		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Population, 15,220							
Mean of 5 years, 1930—1934	11.5	13.2	0.66	1.59	5.72	5.41	72
Year 1934	12.2	11.4	0.78	1.24	5.37	5.20	59
Year 1935	11.3	12.6	0.65	1.70	5.78	5.61	46
Increase or decrease in 1935 on 5 years' average, 1930-34	—0.2	—0.6	—0.01	+0.11	+0.06	+0.20	—26
Previous Year	—0.9	+1.2	—0.13	+0.46	+0.41	+0.41	—13

AGE PERIODS OF DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year ...	4	4	8
Between 1 and 5 years...	0	2	2
„ 5 „ 15 „ ...	3	4	7
„ 15 „ 25 „ ...	2	3	5
„ 25 „ 45 „ ...	12	6	18
„ 45 „ 65 „ ...	24	22	46
Over 65 years ...	50	56	106
	<hr/> 95	<hr/> 97	<hr/> 192

TOTAL DEATHS COMPARED WITH THOSE
FOR 1934.

Causes	1935	1934
All Causes	193	175
Influenza	2	1
Whooping Cough	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	10	12
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	2
Cancer	26	19
Diabetes	3	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	12	12
Heart Disease	37	36
Aneurysm	2	—
Other circulatory diseases	20	17
Bronchitis	15	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	8	9
Other respiratory diseases	2	1
Peptic Ulcer	3	5
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	—	1
Appendicitis	2	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1
Other liver diseases	1	3
Other digestive diseases	7	4
Nephritis	10	1

Causes	1935	1934
Puerperal Sepsis	1	—
Other puerperal causes	—	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	7	7
Senility	1	2
Suicide	1	1
Other violent deaths	3	5
Other defined causes	15	20
Ill-defined causes	1	3

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF
MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, &
CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1935.

ENGLAND & WALES, LONDON, 121 GREAT
TOWNS AND 140 SMALLER TOWNS.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	121 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	140 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administ- rative County	Ramsbottom
	Rates per 1,000 population				
Births:—					
Live	14.7	14.8	14.8	13.3	11.3
Still	0.62	0.68	0.64	0.52	0.33
Deaths:—					
All Causes	11.7	11.8	11.2	11.4	12.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.03	0.04	0.03	—	—
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04	—

	England and Wales	121 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	140 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	Ramsbottom
Diphtheria	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.06	—
Influenza	0.18	0.16	0.17	0.11	0.13
Violence	0.52	0.45	0.41	0.51	0.26
Notifications :—					
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.96	3.19	2.75	2.64	2.49
Diphtheria	1.60	1.96	1.34	2.25	0.46
Enteric Fever	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.05	—
Erysipelas	0.42	0.48	0.37	0.45	0.39
Pneumonia	1.15	1.36	0.98	0.89	2.49
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	57	62	55	58	46
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.7	7.9	3.8	11.2	—
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	1.68	Not available			5.78
Others	2.42				
Total	4.10				
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	1.61	Not available			5.62
Others	2.32				
Total	3.93				
Notifications :—					
Puerperal Fever	3.60	4.55	2.76	4.32	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9.44	11.14	8.25	11.89	11.23

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1935.

Disease	Total Cases Notified																			Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
	Total cases, all ages	Under 1	YEARS																			
			1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65									
Scarlet Fever	... 38	... 0	2	4	2	7	15	6	1	1	0	0	0	...	0	30	...	...		
Diphtheria	7	... 0	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	...	0	...	7	...				
Pneumonia	... 38	... 2	1	5	0	1	4	3	1	2	9	7	3	...	8	...	0	...				
Puerperal Fever	... 0	... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	1	...	0	...				
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 2	... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	...	0	...	2	...				
Enccephalitis Lethargica	0	... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	2	...	0	...				
Acute Poliomyelitis	... 3	... 0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	...	1	...	1	...				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	... 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	...	0	...				
Erysipelas	... 6	... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	0	...	0	...	3	...				
Totals	... 95	3	4	10	3	8	23	10	4	4	11	12	3	...	12	...	43	...				

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—MONTHLY INCIDENCE

1935.

Disease	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	... 7	...	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	
Erysipelas	... 6	...				1	1	1		2		1	
Scarlet Fever	... 38	...	5	1	2	2	4		1	1	1	11	10
Pneumonia	... 38	...	10	1	2	4	2	3	2	2		3	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 2	...				2							
Acute Poliomyelitis	... 3	...				1		1		1			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...										1	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... 6	...		1	1			2	1		1		
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... 5	...			1	2	1				1		
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	... 106	15	3	6	8	11	5	7	5	5	5	17	19

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1935.

Age Periods Years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non- Pulmonary M	Non- Pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non- Pulmonary M	Non- Pulmonary F
0— 1 ...								
1— 5 ...			1					
5—10 ...							1	
10—15 ...			2	1				
15—20 ...				1				
20—25 ...					1			1
25—35 ...	1							
35—45 ...	1	1			3	1		
45—55 ...					1			
55—65 ...		1			1			
Over 65 ...	1	1			3			
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	3	3	2	9	1	1	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Excluding Tuberculosis there were 95 notifications of other infectious diseases. From the subjoined table it will be noted that the increase is due almost entirely to scarlet fever and pneumonia. The death from puerperal sepsis attributed to the Urban Area was not notified as the case occurred outside the district.

TABLE OF COMPARISONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NOTIFICATIONS.

	1935	1934
Scarlet Fever	38	12
Diphtheria	7	7
Erysipelas	6	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	—

	1935	1934
Puerperal Fever	—	1
„ Pyrexia	2	2
Pneumonia (all Forms)	38	27
Tuberculosis—		
Respiratory	6	15
Other Forms	5	6

Diphtheria antitoxin is kept at the Public Health Office ; 32,000 units were issued during the year.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, and the nature and number of specimens submitted were as follows : Blood 1 ; Sputum 18 ; Throat Swabs 22 ; Water 1 ; Milk 7 (taken in the street). The other 47 samples mentioned elsewhere were taken from the farms at the request of the County M.O.H., Dr. Butterworth.

DISINFECTION.

Houses are disinfected on removal of the patient to Hospital and on recovery when treated at home. This procedure applies to tuberculosis, but not to measles. The method is by formalin spray or candles which, when burning, liberate fumes of formaldehyde. Since the closing down of the Destructor (the heat from which produced the steam) and the adoption of controlled tipping instead, steam disinfection of clothing, etc., has not locally been available and fumigation alone has been the method relied upon. Arrangements have been made for steam disinfection at the Florence Nightingale Hospital when required. During 1935, 54 houses and 14 articles were fumigated.

Rat Week is observed, when war is made upon these harmful rodents.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—For Small-pox: Ainsworth Hospital, 28 beds; for other Infectious Diseases: The Florence Nightingale Hospital at Bury, 96 beds; for Tuberculosis (Respiratory): The Aitken Sanatorium, 80 beds. These institutions are under the control of the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board on which the Urban District is represented by two members.

LOCAL PROVISION FOR TREATMENT OF
NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The local Medical Services Fund (maintained by a penny a week scheme) provides facilities for the treatment of contributors and their dependents at the Hospitals of Ramsbottom, Bury and Manchester.

The Ramsbottom Cottage Hospital has nine beds and two cots. As showing the activity of this Hospital let me, by the kind permission of the Hospital Management Committee, give the following items from its last year's report.

Number of Patients admitted to Hospital : Surgical	172
Medical	16
Accident	7
	<hr/>
	195

Number of Patients X-rayed	188
Number of Patients for Pathological treatment	55
Number of beds occupied (averaged per day)	6.9
Number of operations performed	129
Number of Out-Patients treated at the Hospital	824
Number of visits made by Out-Patients	3934
Number of Patients attended by District Nurses	196
Number of visits made by District Nurses	3075

School Children from the Elementary Schools in the district are referred by the County Educational Authority to this Hospital for treatment of diseased and enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

DISTRICT NURSING.

Three District Nurses are employed—two of these (one part time only) by the Ramsbottom and District Hospital and District Nursing Association, and the other one, who also practices midwifery, by a voluntary agency at Summerseat. Their services are available for cases of pneumonia, complicated measles and whooping-cough, but not for other infectious diseases. The Local Authority is not responsible for any district nursing arrangements.

The School Clinic, which is under the control of the County Educational Authority's Medical Officers and Nurses, is situated in Bridge Street, over Martins Bank.

THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY at 41, Darbyshire Street, Radcliffe, is directed by the County Council's Tuberculosis Medical Officers, and the times of session for consultation, etc., are every Wednesday at 2-30 p.m., and every third Wednesday of the month at 6-30 p.m. Artificial Light treatment is available, but for radiological examinations patients are referred to the Chief Dispensary at Ashton-under-Lyne, which is the centre for the County Area No. 3, and embraces the Urban District.

THE VENEREAL DISEASES DISPENSARY, also under County management, is situate in the Wylde, Bury. Times of session are :- for males, Tuesday and Thursday 8-30 to 9-30 p.m., Friday 6-30 to 8-30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; for females, Tuesday at 6-30 to 8-30 p.m., Thursday 2 to 5 p.m., Friday 8-30 to 9-30 p.m.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious diseases—the Joint Hospital Board's motor ambulances. For non-infectious cases, the Urban District Council's motor ambulance.

MATERNITY.

There is one registered maternity home in North Ward and no application for any further registration was made during the year.

Three qualified and registered midwives are in practice in the district—a sufficiency for all requirements.

Maternity wards exist at the Bury Infirmary, where a consulting gynecologist attends, and at the hospital at Jericho, to both these institutions a large percentage of our expectant mothers resort for confinement.

Ante-natal supervision is part of the work of these institutions for those applicants for admission who come early. Fifty-four inward transferred births, mostly from these two institutions, were received during the year. For 1934, 68 such transfers were received.

Cases of puerperal sepsis are taken to the Fever Hospital at Bury. Two puerperal pyrexia cases were removed to this hospital during 1935.

In furtherance of the Minister of Health's desire for a reduction of the National Maternal Death-rate, the Local Authority has with the consent of the Minister adopted the following resolution;—The Council are prepared to grant financial assistance towards the cost of Consultants' fees in approved cases where the services of such consultants are required by doctors attending difficult or complicated cases of confinement. They will also accept financial responsibility for similar cases needing institutional treatment sent by them to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

There is no institutional provision within the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children.

Miss Snell, District Visitor, is responsible for carrying out the provisions of Part I. of the Children Act, 1908. This Act which is concerned with "Infant Life Protection" places the responsibility for discharging its conditions—hitherto exercised by the Poor Law

Authority—upon the Local Authority and enjoins upon them the necessity of appointing an officer for fulfilment of its provisions. One of the principal provisions of the Act is that in case of children nursed out for hire, the Local Authority must be satisfied with the conditions under which the child has to live.

In accordance with the Local Scheme for the supply of milk free of cost to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers and children, 12,242½ pints of fresh milk were supplied.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The centre in Stubbins Lane is directed by Miss Snell. She is ably assisted by a committee of ladies who with her manage the centre in a most praiseworthy manner. Tea and biscuits are provided and several in turn undertake the secretarial work incidental to the efficient working of the centre. The Local Authority is greatly indebted to these ladies for the time and service they give and for their abiding interest in this branch of Public Health activity. The average attendance per session for the year was 37; for the preceeding year it was 34. The time of session is Tuesday at 2 p.m.

The Summerseat Centre to which you make a contribution of 50% of the year's expenses is carried on by a private agency who employ their own doctor and nurse to manage it, Miss Snell visits it monthly. It has a fortnightly session—every alternate Wednesday at 2-30 p.m. The average sessional attendance for 1935 was 11; for 1934 it was 14.

Of the 173 babies born during 1935, 67 per cent attended one or other of these Centres.

Health Visitor's Statement, 1935

Under the Notification of Births (Extension) Act 1915, 122 live births and four still births were notified, 71 males and 55 females. 125 were notified by midwives and one by a doctor. In addition to these, 53 live births and one still birth (26 males and 28 females) were transferred from other districts, *i.e.* births taking place outside the district by mothers belonging to this district; 31 of these took place in the lying-in ward of the Infirmary, Bury, 16 in the lying-in ward of the Hospital, Jericho, Bury, two in the Moorlands Hospital, Rawtenstall, three in St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and one in a private nursing home at Tottington.

Total number of live births, 175; still births, 5.

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED BIRTHS.

	Males	Females	Total
Central Ward	13	21	34
North Ward	27	14	41
South Ward	6	7	13
East Ward	12	5	17
West Ward	9	8	17
Walmersly-cum-Shuttleworth Ward	4	0	4
	<hr/> 71	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 126

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Primary Birth Enquiries	175
Revisits to Infants under one year	636
Visits to Children between one and five years	692
Visits to Expectant Mothers	59
Visits re Infants Deaths	9
Visits to one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4
Visits to cases of Whooping-Cough	7
Visits re Free Milk Applications	130
	<hr/>
	1712

Method of Feeding and Mortality of the 175 Infants visited :—

METHOD OF FEEDING

	Living Infants visited	Infants who died under one year
(1) Breast fed only	111	2
(2) Breast fed partially	7	1
(3) Artificially fed	52	1
(4) Not determined	5	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	175	8

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under one month	Under six months	Under nine months
Bronchitis and Congenital			
Heart disease	1	0	0
Pneumonia	0	2	1
Atelectosis	1	0	0
Instrumental Labour	1	0	0
Prematurity	1	0	0
Cardiac failure, asphyxia, Neonatorum	1	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	2	1

SUPPLY OF MILK FREE OF COST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITY'S SCHEME FOR THIS PURPOSE.

Under the Milk (Mothers' and Children's) Order 1921, 69 applications for supply of free milk were received. In 64 instances the family circumstances coming within the limit of the Local Authority's Scheme, the applications were granted. During the year 12,242½ pints of fresh milk free of cost to the recipient were supplied. All these cases are kept under observation and most of the children attend the Welfare Centres.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

187 children, including 122 that attended the Centre for the first time, made 1,703 visits to the Centre in Stubbins Lane, of these 1,312 were made by children under one year, and 391 by children between one and five years. There were 45 sessions held during the year, hence the average attendance at each session was 37, being three per session increase on the previous year.

At the Summerseat Centre a total of 265 attendances were made at 23 sessions, which gives an average attendance of 11 per session, a decrease of three on the previous year.

67% of the infants born in this district during 1935 attended the Welfare Centres.

CHILDREN ACT, 1908, PART I.

One of the chief provisions relating to infant life protection is that every person who undertakes for payment the nursing and maintenance of any child under nine years apart from its parents for more than 48 hours must give notice to the Local Authority. One person living in this district gave notice under the above Act during 1935.

A. L. SNELL.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The main water supply to the district is by the "Irwell Valley Water Board"—which now takes the place of the Bury and District Joint Water Board—on which the Local Authority is represented by two members. The water is of good quality, soft and is plumbo-solvent especially on hot water systems. It is usually abundant, but in dry seasons, if prolonged, consumers are requested to use it economically. The number of houses supplied direct from the mains is 4,700. There are a few private supplies piped and otherwise which supply approximately 600 houses. These are often a source of danger from risk of surface contamination, one such was analysed during the year and found to be unsatisfactory. It was cut off and the houses which it supplied were coupled to the town's mains. The village of Holcombe now has the public water supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The drainage system is combined, i.e. it takes both sewage and surface water besides a considerable volume of trade waste and there is reason to believe large quantities of ground water as well. The outflow sewage works are at Summerseat where the sewage after passing through settling tanks and sprinklers is discharged into the River Irwell.

For a detailed account of collection and disposal of other forms of refuse see Mr. Barlow's report.

DRAIN TESTING. House drains are submitted to smoke and water tests. Sewers are flushed.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The local concession for black smoke per half hour is three minutes, no action for contravention was taken in 1935.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions and water supply of schools continue

to be satisfactory, all except Buckhurst School which in its primitive way moves along slowly and indifferently. It is a church school and lack of funds is said to be the reason for the continuation of such primitive ways.

FOOD.

Mr. Barlow's report on food inspection gives in detail a list of food-stuffs which were condemned by him and surrendered for destruction. No illness from unsound food consumption was reported during the year.

MILK.

Sixty-six dairy farms and twelve other registered cowkeepers, having amongst them approximately 980 cows are resident within the district. In addition to these 14 dairymen or milk purveyors are on the register. Under the Milk (special designations) Order 1923, one dealer's licence for the supply of "certified" milk, i.e. milk from tubercular-tested cattle, was issued.

ANALYSIS. In all 54 samples of milk were submitted for testing and five of these were found to contain living tubercular bacilli. This is further evidence, if that were necessary, to the need for sterilizing by heat bringing nearly to the boiling point uncertified milk before consumption especially in the case of children who seem to be more susceptible to disease caused by the bovine bacillus than adults.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The prevailing type of working-class dwellings in Ramshotbottom is of the two up and two down variety. These are mostly stone built, good and solid of a weekly rental of from 8/6 to 10/6.

The Registrar-General's return for 1932 gave 3,196 families as occupying houses of four rooms or more and 1,043 of three rooms or less, and the average occupants per room throughout the district as

0.82—unity being regarded as the normal standard. The approximate number of back to back houses is 430. The evidence of shortage of houses is not clear but at present there are on the Council's list 197 applicants for new and better houses when available.

The extent of overcrowding is difficult to estimate but probably does not exist in any great degree. The number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply is approximately 150.

The number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation is approximately 1540.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Representations for six areas comprising 73 houses—all of which were accepted by the Ministry of Health for clearance—were put before you during the year.

HOUSING SCHEME.

Fifty-four houses for re-housing people from clearance areas are at present in course of erection.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) ...	91
(i) By the Local Authority	34
(ii) By other Local Authorities	nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons... ..	57
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority	34
(ii) By other bodies or persons... ..	nil

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	163
--	-----

(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	431
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	...	nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose :—	...	nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	73
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	21
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	9
3.	Action under statutory powers during the year :—		
	A.—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	... ..
(a)	By owners	... ..	nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	nil
	B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were		

remedied after service of formal notices :—

- | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | ... | | | | | nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 10 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... | ... | ... | ... | nil |

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | | | | | nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |

In conclusion permit me to thank you for your abiding interest in Public Health affairs and for your help and encouragement in the execution of my duties. I also thank my fellow officials for their help so willingly put at my disposal whenever in my necessity I have need of it.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The Annual Report

of the

Sanitary Inspector

1935

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN.

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1935.

The most outstanding event of the year has been the increased activity in connection with housing work, details of which will be found in the chapter on that subject. I would like to say here however, that these activities in addition to being a really serious attempt to rid the town of its slums and insanitary houses, are having a stimulating effect upon a number of owners.

Other items of considerable interest during the year have been the provision of a public water supply to Holcombe village, the adoption of a scheme of financial assistance towards the cost of Conversions, the closing down of the Destructor Works in favour of Controlled Tipping and the greatly increased work of Meat inspection as a result of the establishment of a bacon factory in the district.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	163
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	23
Shops and market stalls	...	...	...	...	478
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	552
Farms	...	...	...	...	47
Dairies	...	...	...	...	4
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	7
Work in progress	...	...	...	...	36
Property under observation			...	...	431
Owners seen	...	...	...	...	61
Other premises	...	...	...	...	170
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	54
Drain inspections	...	...	...	...	179
Factories	...	...	...	...	24
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	11
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	2
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/>
					2245

DEFECTS FOUND.

Insanitary privy middens	...	...	...	...	9
„ pail closets	...	...	...	...	42
Houses without sufficient sanitary accommodation				...	16
Defective wet pails	...	...	...	...	2
„ ashbins	...	...	...	...	41
Choked tippler w.cs.	...	...	...	...	308
Defective and choked drains	...	...	...	...	12
„ downspout	...	...	...	...	1
Houses without adequate and readily accessible water supply					4
„ without wholesome water supply			...	...	5
House walls damp	...	...	...	...	5
Defective eaves gutters	...	...	...	...	4
„ roofs	...	...	...	...	3
„ plastering	...	...	...	...	18
Rear walls of houses requiring pointing			...	...	5
Defective chimney stacks and pots	...	...	...	...	11
„ sinks	...	...	...	...	11
„ windows	...	...	...	...	16
„ flue and firerange	...	...	...	...	1
„ floors of cowsheds	...	...	...	...	3
Cowsheds insufficiently lighted	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouse requiring limewashing	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation of factory insufficient	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences in factory not provided with lights				...	2
Doors of women's sanitary conveniences not provided					
with fasteners	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous defects	...	...	...	...	9

DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Fresh water closets provided in lieu of privy middens	...	5
Fresh water closets provided in lieu of pail closets	...	42
Fresh water closets provided in lieu of waste water closets...		4
Additional fresh water closets provided	... ..	12
Insanitary ashpit done away with	... ..	1
New ashbins provided	... ..	42
New wet pails provided	... ..	2
Defective and choked drains relaid	... ..	3
„ „ „ repaired	... ..	8
Choked tippler W.Cs. repaired	... ..	308
New lavatory seat provided	... ..	1
Back to back houses made through	... ..	2
Houses provided with back doors	... ..	4
Houses provided with additional light and ventilation	...	3
New door provided	... ..	1
New eaves gutter provided	... ..	1
Defective floorboards repaired	... ..	1
Houses provided with adequate and readily accessible water supply	... ..	26
Bakehouse limewashed	... ..	1
Sanitary accommodation in factory provided with lights	...	1
Cowshed remodelled	... ..	1
Cowshed floors relaid	... ..	3
Cowsheds provided with additional light and ventilation	...	3

HOUSING.

Activities in this sphere of public health work have again been a prominent feature of the year's work.

431 inspections have been made in respect of 163 houses.

Representations in connection with six Clearance Areas involving 73 houses were prepared and submitted for your consideration and approval.

Ministry of Health Inquiries were held in respect of three Areas involving 42 houses.

I append herewith details of the progress made in this direction up to the present :—

Area No.	Description	Year represented	Inquiry held	No. of Houses	No. of Persons
1.	Carr Street	1934	1934	43	140
2.	Silver St. and Square St.	1934	1935	31	89
3.	Peel Street, No. 1	1935	1935	5	10
4.	Peel Street, No. 2	1935	1935	8	17
5.	Ramsbottom Lane	1935		41	140
6.	Whalley Road	1935		6	19
7.	Carr Fold	1935		10	23
8.	Carex Street	1935		3	11
				<hr/> 147	<hr/> 449

All the Areas, excepting Silver Street and Square Street in respect of which you approved certain modifications prior to the Inquiry, have been approved in entirety by the Ministry of Health.

The year also saw the completion of the first part (34 houses) of the Dundee Housing Estate and the re-housing of the occupants of the Carr Street Area.

Further areas are in hand, the delay in the erection of houses to re-house the persons displaced has, however, somewhat restricted progress.

WATER SUPPLY.

The provision of a public water supply to Holcombe Village was completed during the year. This, in addition to the provision of an adequate water supply to the houses, has facilitated the improvement of the sanitary accommodation of the village.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Frequent visits are paid to slaughter-houses, shops, market stalls, bakehouses and food preparing premises. Every endeavour is made to secure that a wholesome food supply is obtained and that the premises in which food is prepared, manufactured or sold are maintained in a wholesome condition.

An effort is made, so far as this is possible, to examine the carcasses of all animals after slaughter. The establishment of a bacon factory within the district, where approximately 80 pigs are slaughtered weekly, has however, added to the difficulty of this task.

During the year under review a stallholder on the Market Place was summoned for exposing for sale a side of pork affected with tuberculosis and fined £20 and costs. Three persons were also summoned for the illegal slaughter of sheep at Shuttleworth and fined £10, £3 and £2 respectively, plus costs in each case.

NUMBER OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, ETC.

Slaughter-houses (registered)	...	...	3
Slaughter-houses (licensed)	...	...	8
Beef butchers	...	...	22
Pork butchers	...	...	4
Butchers' stalls on Market	...	...	1
Meat hawkers	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	28

The amount of meat found to be unfit for human food was 11,381 lbs.—this includes nine whole carcasses of beef, six pigs and two sheep, details of which will be found in the following tables.

NUMBER OF CARCASSES
EXAMINED AFTER SLAUGHTER.

	Bulls	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	TOTAL
January	3	30	17	11		125	186
February	4	41	14	17	4	124	204
March	3	40	17	12	1	152	225
April	4	57	14			268	343
May	7	32	9	4		162	214
June	5	24	7	5		138	179
July	8	17	6	1		200	232
August	2	7	6	3		81	99
September	1	11	6	5	2	92	117
October		33	13	14	2	238	300
November	1	42	11	13	3	203	273
December	1	39	20	27	4	398	489
	<hr/> 39	<hr/> 373	<hr/> 140	<hr/> 112	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 2181	<hr/> 2861

No record kept of the number of sheep and lambs examined.

CARCASSES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE
UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

	TOTAL.		ALL DISEASES.					
	Whole Carcasses and Organs	Parts of Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Udders	Plucks
Bovines	9	5	31	86	8 + 41 lbs.	2	4	
Pigs	6	1	296	26	17			81
Sheep	2							
TUBERCULOUS.								
Bovines	5	2	31	85	3	2	2	
Pigs	3		296	17	4			79
OTHER DISEASES.								
BOVINES.								
Fevered	2							
Johnes Disease	1							

	Whole Carcases and Organs	Parts of Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Udders	Plucks
Injury	1	3						
Pneumonia				1				
Cirrhosis					4			
Distomatosis					1			
					+ 41 lbs.			
Mastitis							2	
Pigs.								
Dropsy	1							
Pyemia	1							
Decomposi- tion	1							
Injury		1						
Pleurisy				6				2
Pneumonia				3				
Cirrhosis					12			
Echinococcus					1			
SHEEP.								
Dropsy	2							

WEIGHTS OF CARCASES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

TOTAL WEIGHTS IN POUNDS. ALL DISEASES.

	Whole Carcases and Organs	Parts of Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Ud- ders	Plucks	Total
Bovines	3767	870	926	688	141	6	28		6426
Pigs	752	36	3579	100	68			324	4859
Sheep	96								96
	4615	906	4505	788	209	6	28	324	11381

TUBERCULOUS.

Bovines	2174	417	926	680	36	6	12		4251
Pigs	571		3579	63	16			316	4545

OTHER DISEASES.

Bovines	1593	453		8	105		16		2175
Pigs	181	36		37	52			8	314
Sheep	96								96

MILK AND DAIRIES ACT.

I regret that owing to the pressure of other matters I have again been unable to devote the time and attention I should desire to this aspect of public health affairs.

The number of dairy farms etc. in the district is:—

Dairy Farms	...	...	...	...	66
Dairymen or milk purveyors	...	...	...	...	14
Cow-keepers	...	...	...	...	78
Dealers licensed for "certified milk"	...	...	...	...	1
Grade "A" producers	...	...	...	...	2

Fifty-four inspections were made during the year.

At two farms new cowsheds have been provided; new floors have been laid at two cowsheds and additional light and ventilation provided to two others.

Two of the farms in the district are licensed for the production of Grade "A" milk and one dealer licensed for the sale of Certified Milk.

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR
TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Fifty-four samples of milk were obtained and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Samples of all milk supplied to school children are obtained twice yearly.

Five of the samples were found to be positive and in each of these cases further samples were obtained at the farms as a result of which three affected animals were discovered and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order 1925.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The County Police administer the provisions of this Act.

I am indebted to Superintendent Thompson for the following particulars of samples purchased in Ramsbottom under the above Act during 1935.

Milk	...	...	...	20
Gravy Browning	...	...	...	1
Sauce	...	...	...	1
Lard	...	...	...	1
Coffee	...	...	...	1
Canned Salmon	...	...	...	1
Honey	...	...	...	1
Pepper	...	...	...	1
Boiled Sweets	...	...	...	1
Cocoa	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	1
Ham and Tongue Paste	...	...	...	1
Zinc ointment	...	...	...	1
Potted Shrimps	...	...	...	1
Oatmeal	...	...	...	1
Marmalade	...	...	...	1
Soup Powder	...	...	...	1
				—
				36

Upon analysis, all the above samples were found to be genuine.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the district with accommodation for 96 persons. It is conducted in a satisfactory manner.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are seven offensive trades in the district. No contravention of the bye-laws were found during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The adoption of a scheme whereby the Council are prepared to contribute towards the cost has increased the rate of progress in the abolition of pail closets and privy middens. These insanitary relics of the past should long ago have been removed from our midst, and I look forward to their total abolition.

Conversions during the past six years.

	1935	5 years 1930-1934
Privy closets to fresh water closets	5	45
Pail closets „ „ „	42	54
Waste water closets to fresh water closets	4	19
Houses provided with ashbins in lieu of ashpits	3	1230

The sanitary accommodation at the end of the year, so far as can be reasonably ascertained, consists of :—

Fresh water closets	2859
Waste water closets	1305
Pail closets	442
Privy middens	54
Closets attached to middens ...	107
Ashbins	3788
Dry ashpits	67

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Two noteworthy changes in connection with this branch of public health work have taken place during the year, namely the closing down of the Destructor Works in favour of Controlled Tipping, and the substitution of motor vehicles for horse-drawn vehicles. The changes have enabled further savings to be effected in the cost of this service without loss of efficiency.

The financial year terminates on the 31st March, therefore the figures given below refer to period ending on that date in each year.

For the purpose of comparison a table is here inserted showing the number of houses on the rate books, the nett expenditure, its rate equivalent and the cost per house for this service during the years 1931 to 1936.

Year ended 31st March	No. of Houses on Rate Books	Nett Expenditure £	Rate Equivalent d.	Cost per House s. d.	
1931	4346	2900	11.0	13	4.12
1932	4369	2756	10.2	12	7.39
1933	4402	2625	9.6	11	11.08
1934	4470	2546	9.2	11	4.42
1935	4663	2528	8.7	10	10.11
1936	4781	2320	8.0	9	8.46

It will be noted that the nett expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1936, is £600 (equivalent to a 3d. rate) less than that for the year ended 31st March, 1931, whilst the number of houses in the district has increased during the same period by approximately 450.

The expenditure could be still further reduced if householders would burn their combustible refuse. I am convinced if this were done the amount of refuse would be reduced by one half.

Particulars of collection and disposal are as follows:—

HORSE VEHICLES. COLLECTION.

Month		Londs	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Pail Closets	Ashpits	Cess- pools
January	...	221	9	10357	15	237	55	2
February	...	165	1	8038	11	4	48	1
March	...	169	1	8235	10	5	41	1
April	...	212	12	9502	10	80	54	9
May	...	131	5	6016	8	45	30	3
June	...	99	4	4138	10	128	25	2
July	...	87	4	3144	10	162	31	—
August	...	135	8	5413	10	68	40	3
September	...	137	6	6367	3	—	36	6
October	...	127	4	5745	18	8	30	3
November	...	24	9	812	7	3	11	11
December	...	5	—	—	8	4	7	—
Totals	...	1512	63	67767	120	744	408	41

DISPOSAL.

Month		Excreta Shoats	Peel Brow Tip	Miller St. Tip	Other Tips	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	...	8	183	34	5	221	9
February	...	1	133	28	4	165	1
March	...	1	137	28	4	169	1
April	...	1	172	35	16	212	12
May	...	5	102	24	5	131	5
June	...	4	77	17	5	99	4
July	...	4	71	12	4	87	4
August	...	1	110	20	12	135	8
September	...	—	121	16	6	137	6
October	...	4	104	14	9	127	4
November	...	—	20	—	13	24	9
December	...	—	—	—	5	5	—
Totals	...	29	1230	228	88	1512	63

MOTOR VEHICLES. COLLECTION.

Month		Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Pail Closets	Ashpits	Cess- pools
January	...	80	40	6838	20	1887	13	—
February	...	66	36	6152	9	1673	13	1
March	...	69	37	6245	4	1666	17	1
April	...	86	43	8078	5	1994	4	2
May	...	73	35	6562	16	1616	6	—
June	...	66	33	6026	3	1501	1	—
July	...	73	32	6851	1	1436	4	—
August	...	82	36	7473	15	1586	8	—
September	...	68	33	6196	7	1472	18	2
October	...	151	40	11240	16	1811	24	—
November	...	215	32	13951	13	1414	32	1
December	...	316	45	21479	6	1982	35	—
Totals	...	1345	442	107091	115	20038	175	7

DISPOSAL.

Month		Excreta Shoots	Peel Brow Tip	Miller St. Tip	Other Tips	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	...	40	60	20		80	40
February	...	36	52	14		66	36
March	...	37	54	15		69	37
April	...	43	67	19		86	43
May	...	35	56	17		73	35
June	...	33	48	18		66	33
July	...	32	57	16		73	32
August	...	36	66	16		82	36
September	...	33	52	16		68	33
October	...	40	125	26		151	40
November	...	32	176	39		215	32
December	...	45	264	52		316	45
Totals	...	442	1077	268		1345	442

HIRED MOTOR VEHICLES. COLLECTION.

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Pail Closets	Ashpits	Cess- pools
January	...						
February	...						
March	...						
April	...	5		12		3	
May	...	57	2197	6	1	31	
June	...	80	4260	12	17	14	1
July	...	80	4372	29	12	21	
August	...	50	3104	3	8	2	
September	...	28	1735	2		4	
October	...	11	775				
November	...						
December	...	55	2122	20		15	
Totals	...	366	18565	84	38	90	1

DISPOSAL.

Month	Excreta Shoots	Peel Brow Tip	Miller St. Tip	Other Tips	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	...					
February	...					
March	...					
April	...	5			5	
May	...	50	7		57	
June	...	69	11		80	
July	...	73	7		80	
August	...	50			50	
September	...	28			28	
October	...	11			11	
November	...					
December	...	48	7		55	
Totals	...	334	32		366	

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your help in connection with the carrying out of my duties and also for your appreciation of my efforts to improve the Sanitary conditions of this town.

I also desire to thank my fellow Officials for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

HERBERT BARLOW,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.









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